

### *House of Representatives Eliminates 2010 Cost of Living Adjustment*

Washington, DC – Tuesday, it was announced that Congressman Harry Teague along with several other members of the House had prevailed on House Democratic Leadership to stop the planned 2010 pay raise. During Tuesday's Democratic Caucus meeting, Leadership informed members that they have instructed the Appropriations Committee not to include the cost-of-living increase in members' salaries scheduled for next year.

"My first action as a member of Congress was to support eliminating the Congressional pay raise because it was the right thing to do. Since then, I have been focused on creating jobs, cutting taxes for our working families and helping the people of Southern New Mexico get through these tough times," said Congressman Harry Teague. "17,000 New Mexicans have lost their jobs in the past year, the only right thing to do was reject this pay raise."

On the same day he was sworn in, Congressman Harry Teague signed on as an original co-sponsor of the Stop the Congressional Pay Raise Act of 2009, a bipartisan bill to eliminate the automatic pay raise for members of Congress scheduled to take effect in 2010.

The bill earned the support of the National Taxpayers Union, Council for Citizens Against Government Waste, Taxpayers for Common Sense and The Senior Citizens League.

In 1989, Congress passed a law that provides lawmakers with an automatic pay raise every January unless they vote specifically to reject the raise.